

REMARKS

Claim Rejections

35 USC § 102

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 USC § 102 as being anticipated by Koffler et al. That rejection is obviated by the current amendment to claim 1 (and the remaining claims by virtue of their dependencies). Koffler teaches a mitt, rounded at the closed ends. Such devices are not very useful in picking up flat objects. The claim amendments herein require that the pockets have closed ends with mutually opposable flattened surfaces near said ends. This spatulated design is inconsistent with the "mitt" concept of Koffler.

35 USC § 103

Claims 2 – 6 were rejected under 35 USC 103 as being obvious over Koffler et al. in view of various other references. Those claims, as well as claim 7, are all allowable as being dependent upon allowable claim 1.

35 USC § 112

The examiner pointed out that claim 1 needs to be revised to substitute "fingers" for "finders". That amendment is made herein.

No New Matter

Amendment of the claims herein does not introduce any new matter. The claim amendments are readily apparent from the drawing figures 1-3.

Inventor: Earl Votolato
Serial No.: 10/047059
Docket No. 019502.0015US1

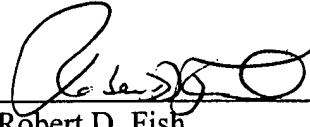
Art Unit: 3765
Examiner: Rodney Lindsey

REQUEST FOR ALLOWANCE

Claims 1-7 and 14 are pending in this application. The applicant requests allowance of all pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,
Rutan & Tucker, LLP

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By: 
Robert D. Fish
Reg. No. 33,880

Attorneys for Applicant(s)
Post Office Box 1950
Costa Mesa, CA 92628-1950
Tel: (714) 641-5100
Fax: (714) 546-9035